

## **Coffman Blasts Administration on Missile Defense Decision**

**(WASHINGTON, D.C)** - Rep. Mike Coffman (R-Aurora) today released the following statement in response to the President's announcement that the United States would cancel plans to develop a ballistic missile defense shield in Eastern Europe:

"The President's assertion in his announcement today that scrapping the planned Eastern Europe missile shield will somehow strengthen U.S. defenses against missiles and better protect our troops in Europe is simply untrue.

This is not a military decision; it is a political decision and a poor one at that."

"It is disheartening, but not surprising, that on the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Poland the Obama Administration has decided to capitulate to Russian demands to weaken our national security. This shift in defense policy also sends the absolute wrong message to our NATO allies."

"The President's strategy to only focus on the existing short range threat is short sighted. Given the timeline necessary for the construction and deployment of missile defenses, by the time we know absolutely that Iran has developed a long range capability, it will be too late."

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